

**Europäisches Patentamt** 

**European Patent Office** 

Office européen des brevets



(11) EP 0 695 789 A1

(12)

## **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(43) Date of publication: 07.02.1996 Bulletin 1996/06

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>6</sup>: **C09D 5/00**, G03G 7/00, B41M 5/00

(21) Application number: 95111793.6

(22) Date of filing: 27.07.1995

(84) Designated Contracting States: **DE GB** 

(30) Priority: 01.08.1994 JP 200156/94

(71) Applicant: Hitachi Maxell Ltd. Osaka-fu (JP)

(72) Inventors:

Mitsuhashi, Hiroyuki
Otokuni-gun, Kyoto-fu (JP)

Kohno, Kenji
Ibaraki-shi, Osaka-fu (JP)

Miyata, Kazushi
Mishima-gun, Osaka-fu (JP)

(74) Representative: Jönsson, Hans-Peter, Dr. et al D-50667 Köln (DE)

# (54) Printing sheet from which deposits are readily removed

(57) A coated substrate having a material substrate, and a coating composition fixed to a surface of the material substrate, the coating composition containing a hydrophilic resin which swells with water but is not washed out by water, and is solid in air at ambient temperature and from which surface deposits can be readily removed, in which the coated substrate has a surface resistivity of 10<sup>5</sup> to 10<sup>13</sup> Ω/□ at 25°C, 50 %RH after being dipped in water for 5 minutes and dried with a hot air of 60 to 90°C for 5 minutes. This coated substrate is easily handled.

### Description

### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

#### 5 Field of the Invention

20

25

30

55

The present invention relates to a printing sheet from which deposits are readily removed. In particular, the present invention relates to a surface coating fixed to a substrate sheet which is used in an office automation equipment such as a printer of a computer or a word processor, a copier, and so on, and from a surface of which, deposits such as a printing ink or a toner are readily removed by washing with water so that the sheet can be repeatedly cleaned and used.

## Description of the Related Art

Office automation sheets such as printing papers, copying papers, overhead projector (OHP) sheets are used in a large volume for printing characters or drawings by a xerographic copier, a laser printer, an ink jet printer, and so on. In these years, an amount of color printing is increasing. Accordingly, the volume of the office automation sheets increases year by year.

Most of the office automation sheets are discarded after use, and cause environmental problems or waste of natural resources. To solve such problems, it is preferable to recycle the once used office automation sheets, erase the printed characters or drawings, and reuse the sheets.

However, in many cases, a toner or an ink to be printed by the xerographic copier or the printer is insoluble in water, so that the removal of the toner or ink from the sheet is difficult. If the toner or ink is water-soluble, it is not easy to completely remove it from the sheet and to reuse the cleaned sheet. If an organic solvent is used to erase the printed characters or drawings, it has an adverse effect on human bodies and environment.

As one of the ways to solve such problems, EP-A-0 601 491 (corresponding to JP-A-6-222604) disclose an office automation sheet having a surface coating comprising a hydrophilic resin which swells with water but not washed out by water and is a solid in air at ambient temperature. The disclosed office automation sheet is useful, but still unsatisfactory, since its printing property with the toner or ink, its transportability in the copying or printing machine, and its easy handling property may be deteriorated after recycling.

### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An object of the present invention is to provide an office automation sheet having a surface coating comprising a hydrophilic resin which is a solid in air at ambient temperature and swells with water but is not washed out by water, with maintaining a printing property, transportability and an easy handling property after recycling.

According to the present invention, there is provided a coated substrate comprising a material substrate, and a coating composition fixed to a surface of said material substrate, said coating composition comprising a hydrophilic resin which swells with water but is not washed out by water, and is solid in air at ambient temperature and from which surface deposits can be readily removed, wherein said coated substrate has a surface resistivity of  $10^5$  to  $10^{13} \Omega/\Box$  at  $25^{\circ}$ C, 50 %RH after being dipped in water for 5 minutes and dried with a hot air of 60 to  $90^{\circ}$ C for 5 minutes.

When the office automation sheets have the above properties, they do not stick each other by electrostatic charge during printing by the xerographic copier, whereby insertion failure of the sheet or jam of the sheet can be prevented, and handling of plural sheets is very easy.

## 5 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the present invention, the coated substrate has a surface resistivity of  $10^5$  to  $10^{13} \Omega/\Box$  at 25°C, 50 %RH after being dipped in water for 5 minutes and dried with a hot air of 60 to 90°C for 5 minutes. When the surface resistivity is larger than  $10^{13} \Omega/\Box$ , an effect of preventing electrostatic charge is low, so that the intended effect of the present invention is not achieved.

When the office automation sheet having the surface coating from which the deposits are readily removed and which has the surface resistivity of less than  $10^5 \Omega/\Box$  is printed by the xerographic copier, a uniform printing quality is not obtained, that is, an excessive amount of the toner is deposited on the sheet surface, or an insufficient amount of the toner is deposited in a solid print part.

In view of the deposition of the toner on the sheet surface, the surface resistivity is preferably from  $10^9$  to  $10^{13} \Omega/\Box$ . To make the printing property, transportability and handling of the sheet good in the first printing process, the surface resistivity is preferably in the range of  $10^5$  to  $10^{13} \Omega/\Box$ .

In some applications, preferably the surface coating of the present invention has good transparency. In such case, the coating has a transmission of at least 70 % with the entire light or a light having a wavelength of 550 nm.

In the applications where the transparency is required such as the OHP sheet, if the transparency of the coating is decreased by water, the sheet would have some problem in use. Then, after being dipped in water, the decrease of a transmission with the entire light or the light having the wavelength of 550 nm is 30 % or less in comparison to the transmittance before being dipped in water.

A thickness of the surface coating of the present invention is not critical. Preferably, the thickness of the surface coating, is at least  $0.05~\mu m$  for the sufficient swellability. In particular, to achieve the good printing property with a color toner or an aqueous ink, the thickness is at least  $0.5~\mu m$ . When the thickness of the surface coating is too large, the coating may be damaged when the ink or other deposits are removed with water. Therefore, the thickness of the surface coating is preferably  $50~\mu m$  or less, more preferably  $30~\mu m$  or less.

5

10

30

45

50

The surface coating and an antistatic layer which will be explained below, or the antistatic layer and the substrate material have good adhesion to each other or peeling resistance, so that they are not peeled off. To this end, the surface coating or the antistatic layer has preferably a rank of "5" or larger, more preferably a rank of "8" or larger in the chess board (GOBANME) test according to JIS K 5400.

In the present invention, the surface resistivity may be adjusted in the above defined range by any method. For example, a material which has an antistatic property and is hardly washed out by water, such as a conductive power or an antistatic agent is compounded in the surface coating composition, or an antistatic layer is formed between the substrate material and the surface coating.

The formation of the antistatic layer between the substrate material and the surface coating is effective to control the surface resistivity, since the properties of the surface coating are not deteriorated, or the antistatic material is not dissipated from the surface.

Hereinafter, the office automation sheet of the present invention will be explained in connection with the sheet having the antistatic layer as an under coat.

The antistatic layer may be formed by any of conventional methods. For example, a conductive coating composition comprising a conductive powder is coated on the substrate material, or a coating composition in which a polymeric antistatic agent or a conductive polymer is dissolved is coated on the substrate material. When the antistatic layer is formed, the electrical charge on the office automation sheet is effectively suppressed.

Preferably, the antistatic layer has sufficient heat resistance, so that the antistatic effect of the layer is not deteriorated by the heat applied on the sheet in a printing step in the xerographic printing or laser printing so as to maintain the antistatic property of the office automation sheet in repeated deposition and removal of the ink.

Preferably, the antistatic layer is not dissolved in water and does not absorb water, or if it absorbs water, it can restore the antistatic property after drying, when the ink is repeatedly removed from the surface coating. In water used for removing the ink and so on, an electrolyte, a polymer, a surfactant, or an organic solvent such as an alcohol may be contained.

In a preferred embodiment, the antistatic layer is formed by coating a conductive coating composition which has been prepared by dispersing the conductive powder and a binder resin in a solvent, and coating it on the substrate material.

Preferred examples of the conductive powder material are zinc oxide, barium sulfate, aluminum borate, titanium oxide, tin oxide, titanium black, potassium titanate, and so on. Examples of the binder resin are acrylic resins, polyester resins, polyurethane resins, polyvinyl chloride resins, and so on. Examples of the solvent are water, alcohols (e.g. methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, butanol, etc.), ketones (e.g. acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, cyclohexanone, etc.), toluene, ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol methyl cellosolve, ethyl cellosolve, esters (e.g. methyl acetate, ethyl acetate, butyl acetate, etc.), ethers (e.g. tetrahydrofuran, dimethyl ether, diethyl ether, etc.), amides (e.g. dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide, etc.), dimethylsulfoxide, dioxane, hexane, N-methylpyrrolidone, and so on. They may be used independently or as their mixture.

When the antistatic layer comprises the polymeric antistatic agent, the polymeric antistatic agent is dissolved in an organic solvent to obtain a paint, and the paint is coated on the substrate material.

Examples of the polymeric antistatic agent are polymers of a quaternary ammonium salt of acrylic acid or methacrylic acid; or a monomer having a tertiary amine group (e.g. N,N-dimethylacrylamide, N-acrylylglycineamide, N-isopropylacryamide, N,N-dimethylaminopropylacrylamide, vinylpyrrolidone, N,N-dimethylaminoethyl acrylate, N,N-dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate, allylamine, etc.).

When the antistatic layer comprises the conductive polymer, the conductive polymer is dissolved in water or an organic solvent to obtain a paint, and the paint is coated on the substrate material. Examples of the conductive polymer are polyaniline, polyacetylene, polyparaphenylene, polypyrrole, polythiophene, polyvinyl carbazole, and so on. In the polymeric antistatic agent or the conductive polymer, other general resin or a dopant may be mixed.

Examples of the solvent in which the polymeric antistatic agent or the conductive polymer is dissolved are water, alcohols (e.g. methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, butanol, etc.), ketones (e.g. acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, cyclohexanone, etc.), toluene, ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol methyl cellosolve, ethyl cellosolve, esters (e.g. methyl acetate, ethyl acetate, butyl acetate, etc.), ethers (e.g. tetrahydrofuran, dimethyl ether, diethyl ether, etc.), amides

(e.g. dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide, etc.), dimethylsulfoxide, dioxane, hexane, N-methylpyrrolidone, and so on. They may be used independently or as a mixture thereof.

Alternatively, the antistatic layer may be made of a metal vapor deposition film of, for example, aluminum, gold, silver, copper, iron, cobalt, nickel, titanium, platinum, molybdenum, tungsten, etc.

The surface coating which is formed on the antistatic layer may be formed by coating a solution of the hydrophilic resin which swells with water on the antistatic layer, and drying it.

Examples of the hydrophilic resin which swells with water are homo- or copolymers of acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, vinyl alcohol, hydroxyethyl methacrylate, dihydroxypropyl methacrylate, acrylamide-2-methylpropanesulfonic acid, acrylamide, methacrylamide, N,N-dimethylacrylamide, N,N-dimethylacrylamide, N-acrylylglycineamide, N-isopropylacrylamide, N,N-dimethylaminopropylacrylamide, vinylpyrrolidone, N<sub>1</sub>N-dimethylaminoethyl acrylate, N,N-dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate, allylamine, their salts, quaternary derivatives of the amino compounds; polyethylene glycol and cellulose hydroxyl groups of which are substituted by one or more of a methoxy group, an ethoxy group, a propoxy group, a hydroxypropoxy group, etc.; copolymers of the above monomer or monomers with at least one other monomer; and so on.

The surface coating comprising such hydrophilic resin should not be washed away with water, so that the office automation sheet can be repeatedly used. To this end, the hydrophilic resin has preferably a gel content, which is a ratio of unwashed away components, of at least 50 %, more preferably at least 70 %. When the gel content is in this range, scratch resistance and water resistance can be imparted to the coating to some extent.

In some case, it is effective to crosslink the hydrophilic resin. Examples of a functional group for crosslinking are an epoxy group, an isocyanate group, a double bond, a sulfoxyl group, a phosphoxyl group, a carboxyl group, an acid anhydride, an aldehyde group, an oxyazoline, a hydroxyl group, an amino group, an amide group, and the like. The functional group may be present in a crosslinking agent or the hydrophilic resin. Specific examples of the crosslinking agent are an epoxy crosslinking agent, an isocylanate crosslinking agent, tannic acid, glyoxal, methylol-melamine resin, urea-formalin resin, and so on. The hydrophilic resin may be crosslinked by radiation.

Examples of the solvent in which the hydrophilic resin is dissolved are water, alcohols (e.g. methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, butanol, etc.), ketones (e.g. acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, cyclohexanone, etc.), toluene, ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol methyl cellosolve, ethyl cellosolve, butyl cellosolve, esters (e.g. methyl acetate, ethyl acetate, butyl acetate, etc.), ethers (e.g. tetrahydrofuran, dimethyl ether, diethyl ether, etc.), amides (e.g. dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide, etc.), dimethylsulfoxide, dioxane, hexane, N-methylpyrrolidone, and so on. They may be used independently or as a mixture thereof.

The surface coating and the antistatic layer may be formed on either one or both of the surfaces of the substrate material.

To improve various properties of the coated substrate, materials other than the hydrophilic resin may be used in combination with the hydrophilic resin. For example, inorganic particles, organic particles, a plasticizer, an anti-foaming agent, a lubricant, a dye, a pigment, a dispersant, a hydrophobic resin and so one can be used, if desired.

Alternatively, the material having the antistatic property such as the conductive powder or the antistatic agent can be compounded in the surface coating composition.

### **EXAMPLES**

20

25

40

45

50

55

The present invention will be illustrated by the following examples, which will not limit the scope of the present invention in any way.

#### Example 1

An electricaly conductive composition A was prepared by mixing the following components homogeneously:

Component	Wt. parts
Electrically conductive paint (ELECOM P-3530 manufactured by SHOKUBAI KASEI Ind. Ltd.)	33.4
Cyclohexanone	33.3
Toluene	33.3

Separately, a composition of the following components was charged in a flask equipped with a condenser and heated and reacted at a temperature of 70 to 80°C in a nitrogen stream for 10 hours to obtain a solution of a hydrophilic resin

A in isopropanol:

10

25

30

35

Component	Wt. parts
Methacrylic acid	5
Acrylic acid	20
2-Hydroxyethyl methacrylate	30
Azobisisobutyronitrile	0.48
Isopropanol	220

To the polymer solution, a solution of sodium hydroxide (3.7 wt. parts) in water (242 wt. parts) was added to neutralize the polymer to obtain a 10 wt. % solution of the resin A.

To the 10 wt. % solution of the resin A, an epoxy crosslinking agent (TETRAD-C manufactured by Mitsubishi Gas Kagaku Co., Ltd.) (2.75 wt. parts) was added and stirred to obtain a homogeneous paint (1).

On a polyethylene terephthalate film having a thickness of 100  $\mu$ m, the conductive composition A was coated at a dry thickness of 0.3  $\mu$ m and dried to form an antistatic layer. Then, on the antistatic layer, the paint (1) was coated at a dry thickness of 1.5  $\mu$ m and dried, followed by heating at 110°C for 5 hours to crosslink the resin A, whereby a surface coating from which deposits are readily removed was formed on the antistatic layer to obtain an OHP sheet.

## Example 2

An electrically conductive composition B was prepared by mixing the following components homogeneously:

Component	Wt. parts
Electrically conductive paint (SHINTRON C-4402 manufactured by SHINTO PAINT Co. Ltd.)	50
Methyl isobutyl ketone	10
Toluene	10
Epoxy crosslinking agent (TETRAD-C) (manufactured by Mitsubishi Gas Kagaku Co., Ltd.)	1.75

On a polyethylene terephthalate film having a thickness of 100 µm, the conductive composition B was coated at a dry thickness of 0.3 µm and dried to form an antistatic layer. Then, on the antistatic layer, the paint (1) prepared in Example 1 was coated at a dry thickness of 1.5 µm and dried, followed by heating at 110°C for 5 hours to crosslink the resin A, whereby a surface coating from which deposits are readily removed was formed on the antistatic layer to obtain an OHP sheet.

#### 45 Example 3

An electrically conductive composition C was prepared by mixing the following components homogeneously:

5	n
_	~

Component	Wt. parts
Polyaniline	1.3
p-Toluenesulfonic acid	1.6
Polyester	1.3
N-methylpyrrolidone	95.8

On a polyethylene terephthalate film having a thickness of 100  $\mu$ m, the conductive composition C was coated at a dry thickness of 0.1  $\mu$ m and dried to form an antistatic layer. Then, on the antistatic layer, the paint (1) prepared in Example 1 was coated at a dry thickness of 1.5  $\mu$ m and dried, followed by heating at 110°C for 5 hours to crosslink the resin A, whereby a surface coating from which deposits are readily removed was formed on the antistatic layer to obtain an OHP sheet.

### Example 4

On a commercially available polyethylene terephthalate film having a polymeric antistatic agent layer (Lumirror U94 manufactured by TORAY Co., Ltd.), the paint (1) prepared in Example 1 was coated at a dry thickness of 1.5  $\mu$ m and dried, followed by heating at 110°C for 5 hours to crosslink the resin A, whereby a surface coating from which deposits are readily removed was formed on the antistatic layer to obtain an OHP sheet.

## Example 5

15

20

30

35

40

50

55

On a commercially available polyethylene terephthalate film having a polymeric antistatic agent layer (Lumirror U 94 manufactured by TORAY Co., Ltd.), the paint (1) prepared in Example 1 was coated at a dry thickness of 0.5  $\mu$ m and dried, followed by heating at 110°C for 5 hours to crosslink the resin A, whereby a surface coating from which deposits are readily removed was formed on the antistatic layer to obtain an OHP sheet.

## Example 6

On a commercially available opaque polyethylene terephthalate sheet having a polymeric antistatic agent layer (Crisper G2323 manufactured by TOYOBO Co., Ltd.), the paint (1) prepared in Example 1 was coated at a dry thickness of  $1.5~\mu m$  and dried, followed by heating at  $110^{\circ}$ C for 5 hours to crosslink the resin A, whereby a surface coating from which deposits are readily removed was formed on the antistatic layer to obtain an OHP sheet.

#### Example 7

A composition of the following components was charged in a flask equipped with a condenser and heated at a temperature of 70 to 80°C in a nitrogen stream for 10 hours to obtain a solution of a hydrophilic resin B in isopropanol:

Component	Wt. parts
Methacrylic acid	50
2-Hydroxyethyl methacrylate	75.5
Azobisisobutyronitrile	0.95
Isopropanol	741

To the polymer solution (133 wt. parts), an epoxy crosslinking agent (EX-920 manufactured by Nagase Chemical Co., Ltd.) (1 wt. parts) was added and stirred to obtain a homogeneous paint (2).

On a polyethylene terephthalate film having a thickness of 100  $\mu$ m, the conductive composition A was coated at a dry thickness of 0.3  $\mu$ m and dried to form an antistatic layer. Then, on the antistatic layer, the paint (2) was coated at a dry thickness of 1.5  $\mu$ m and dried, followed by heating at 110°C for 5 hours to crosslink the resin B, whereby a surface coating from which deposits are readily removed was formed on the antistatic layer to obtain an OHP sheet.

#### Example 8

The solution of the resin A in isopropanol as prepared in Example 1 (10 wt. parts) and an epoxy crosslinking agent (SR-GLG manufactured by Sakamoto Chemical Co., Ltd.) (0.1 wt. part) were homogeneously mixed to obtain a paint (3).

On a polyethylene terephthalate film having a thickness of 100  $\mu$ m, the conductive composition A was coated at a dry thickness of 0.3  $\mu$ m and dried to form an antistatic layer. Then, on the antistatic layer, the paint (3) was coated at a dry thickness of 20  $\mu$ m and dried, followed by heating at 110°C for 5 hours to crosslink the resin A, whereby a surface coating from which deposits are readily removed was formed on the antistatic layer to obtain an OHP sheet.

### Comparative Example

In the same manner as in Example 1 except that no antistatic layer was forme, an OHP sheet was produced. With each of the OHP sheets produced in Examples and Comparative Example, the following properties were measured. In the test in which printing was required, a xerographic copier (NP 5060 manufactured by Canon) was used.

## Removability of Toner Ink

After an OHP sheet is dipped in a 1 wt.% aqueous solution of NaHCO3 for 20 minutes, a surface of the sheet is wiped with a sponge in running water to evaluate the removability of toner ink and ranked as "++" (removed with running water only) and "+" (completely removed with gentle wiping).

# Repeated Removability of Toner Ink

After carrying out the above test of removability of toner ink, moisture is thoroughly removed by a drier, an image 15 is printed on the sheet, and then the toner ink was removed. These steps are repeated and the final number of repetitions after which the ink toner is completely removed is recorded.

## Surface Resistivity

20

25

30

35

40

45

A surface resistivity of an OHP sheet is measured at 25°C, 50 %RH using a resistance meter (4329A manufactured by Heulet Packard).

## Surface Resistivity after Water Dipping

An OHP sheet is dipped in water for 5 minutes, and dried with a hot air of 80°C. Thereafter, a surface resistivity of the OHP sheet is measured at 25°C, 50 %RH in the same manner as above.

### Transportability

As a measure of the transportability, the number of sheets which are clogged in the copier when 10 sheets are printed is counted.

## Light transmission

Using a UV-visible light spectrophotometer (200-20 Type Double Beam Spectrophotometer manufactured by Hitachi), a light transmission at a wavelength of 550 nm is measured.

## Light Transmission after Water Dipping

An OHP sheet is dipped in water for 5 minutes, and dried with a hot air of 80°C for 5 minutes. Thereafter, a light transmission is measured in the same manner as above.

The results are shown in the Table.

As seen from the results of the Table, the office automation sheets (OHP sheets) obtained in Examples 1-8 had the surface resistivity in the range of  $10^5$  to  $10^{13} \Omega/\Box$  even after the dipping in water, so that they were not stick each other

50

55

and easily handled in the form of a bundle of plural sheets.

5	Comp.	‡	10-20	Unmea- surable	(>10 <sup>-3</sup> )	က	98	84
10	8	+	5-10	2.1 x 10 <sup>8</sup>	2.0 x 10 <sup>8</sup>	0	88	86
. 15	7	‡	5-15	1.3 x 10 <sup>7</sup>	1.4 x 10 <sup>7</sup>	0	83	70
20	9	‡	10-20	2.8 x 10 12	2.8 x 10 12	0		,
	5	+	5-15	2.2 x 10 <sup>11</sup>	2.5 x 10 <sup>11</sup>	0	8 9	85
25	4	++	10-20	3.0 x 10 <sup>11</sup>	3.3 x 10 <sup>11</sup>	0	89	89
30	3	‡	10-20	2.0 x 10 <sup>5</sup>	3.4 x 10 <sup>5</sup>	0	83	80
35	2	‡	10-20	2.9 x 10 <sup>7</sup>	8.6 x 10 <sup>7</sup>	0	86	83
40	-	‡	10-20	5.6 x 10 <sup>6</sup>	5.5 x 10 <sup>6</sup>	0	85	84
45 	Example No.	Removability of toner ink	Repeated removability of toner ink	Surface resistivity	Surface esistivity after water dipping	Fransporta- bility	ight trans- nittance (%)	ight trans- nittance after water dipping (%)

## Claims

50

55

 A coated substrate comprising a material substrate, and a coating composition fixed to a surface of said material substrate, said coating composition comprising a hydrophilic resin which swells with water but is not washed out by water, and is solid in air at ambient temperature and from which surface deposits can be readily removed, wherein

said coated substrate has a surface resistivity of 105 to 1013 Ω/□ at 25°C, 50 %RH after being dipped in water for 5 minutes and dried with a hot air of 60 to 90°C for 5 minutes.

- 2. The coated substrate according to claim 1, which has a surface resistivity of  $10^5$  to  $10^{13} \Omega/\Box$  before being dipped 5
  - The coated substrate according to claim 1, which has a light transmission of at least 70 % with the entire light or a light having a wavelength of 550 nm.
- The coated substrate according to claim 1, wherein a decrease of the light transmission with the entire light or a 10 light having a wavelength of 550 nm is 30 % or less after being dipped in water.
  - The coated substrate according to claim 1, wherein a thickness of said surface coating is from 0.05  $\mu m$  to 50  $\mu m$ .
- 6. The coated substrate according to claim 1, which comprises an antistatic layer between said substrate material and said surface coating.
  - 7. The coated substrate according to claim 6, wherein said surface coating or said antistatic layer has a rank of at least "5" in the chess board (GOBANME) test according to JIS K 5400.
  - 8. The coated substrate according to claim 6, wherein said antistatic layer comprises a polymeric antistatic agent.
  - 9. The coated substrate according to claim 6, wherein said antistatic layer comprises a conductive polymer.
- 10. The coated substrate according to claim 6, wherein said antistatic layer comprises a conductive powder-containing resin layer.
  - 11. The coated substrate according to claim 6, wherein said antistatic layer is made of a metal vapor deposition film.

20

30

35

40

45

50

55



## **EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**

Application Number EP 95 11 1793

		RED TO BE RELEVAN	T	G 4001170.000.00
Category	Citation of document with indica of relevant passage		Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IncCL6)
X	EP-A-O 601 502 (HITACH * page 2, line 36 - pa claims 1,16 *		1	C0905/00 G03G7/00 B41M5/00
X	EP-A-0 603 431 (AGFA-0 * page 3, line 10 - pa 1; example 2 *		1,2	,
Χ	EP-A-0 602 713 (AGFA-0	GEVAERT)	1	
	* page 3, line 30 - pa 1 *	age 8, line 11; claim 		3
X	EP-A-0 554 588 (AGFA-0 * page 3, line 1 - pag 1 *		1,2	
X	EP-A-0 546 750 (XEROX) * column 1, line 28 - claims 1-10 *		1,3-6	
X	WO-A-79 00999 (EASTMAN * page 4, line 13 - pa claims 1-17 *		1,3-6	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) CO9D GO3G
X	EP-A-0 274 662 (HOECHS * page 2, line 23 - pa 1; example 5 *	ST) age 3, line 33; claim	1	B41M
A	EP-A-0 463 400 (XEROX	) 		
A	WO-A-94 05506 (IMPERIA INDUSTRIES)	AL CHEMICAL		
	-			
	·		1	
	The present search report has been	drawn up for all claims		
	Place of search	Date of completion of the search		Examiner
	THE HAGUE	3 November 1995	Во	urgonje, A
Y: p2.	CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS rticularly relevant if taken alone rticularly relevant if combined with another cument of the same category thoological background	ple underlying the comment, but pul- date in the application for other reason	blish <b>ed on, or</b> on	